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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

WOOD et al.

(To Be Assigned)

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Filed:

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Examiner:

For:

ION CHANNELS

December 4, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 5, line 2, change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1 or 2--

Claim 10, line 2, change "any one of claims 5 to 9" to --claim 5--.

Claim 21, line 2, change "any one of claims 5 to 10" to --claim 5--.

Claim 24, line 2, change "any one of claims 5 to 10" to --claim 5-2.

Claim 25, lines 1-2, change "any one of claims 21 to 23" to --claim 21--.

Claim 26, line 2, delete "or claim 25"

Claim 27, lines 1-2, change "any one of claims 1 to 4" to --claim 1 of 2--

Claim 28, line 4, change "any one of claims 5 to 10" to --claim 5--

Claim 36, line 4, change "any one of claims 1 to 4" to --claim 1 or $2^{\frac{N}{2}}$

Claim 37, line 3, change "any one of claims 1 to 4" to --claim 1 or 2--